GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:46
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2003
JOINT EXERCISES WITH OTHER COUNTRIES
RAM SHAKAL;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether joint Armed Forces exercises were held between Indian forces and forces of other countries;

(b) if so, the names of countries with which joint exercises were organised during the last three years till date; and

(c) the benefits gained and likely impact of this on the country`s defence;

(d) whether there is any proposal to organise similar joint exercises of the armed forces in near future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 46 FOR ANSWER ON 4.12.2003

The Armed Forces of India have organized bilateral exercises with the Armed Forces of USA, France, Tajikistan, Singapore, Oman, Russia and China during the last three years till date.

Indian Navy have also conducted the MILAN series of multinational exercises involving the navies of South Asia and South Each Asia. In `MILAN- 03` held at Port Blair from February 11-15, 2003, ships and personnel from Australia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated.

Such exercises provide valuable exposure to the Armed Forces to keep abreast with the latest developments in equipment, technology, warfare tactics, concepts and doctrines relating to military operations, test the military skills of our Armed Forces in relation to others, and promote mutual understanding and cooperation. The decisions to hold joint exercises are taken by the Government keeping in view our national interests.

There are proposals under consideration to hold joint exercises by our Armed Forces with armed forces of other countries in the near future. A proposal for a joint naval exercise with France is at an advanced planning stage. It would be premature to disclose details thereof.